

REMARKS / DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

Claims 6, 8, 9, 12, and 18-20 are pending in the application, of which claim 6 is objected to, and claims 8, 9, 12, and 18-20 are allowed.

Applicant(s) thank(s) the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for priority and receipt of certified copies of all the priority document(s), and for indicating approval of the drawing(s).

The final Office action rejects claims 1-5, 10, 11, and 13-17 under 35 USC § 103(a). Applicant(s) respectfully disagree with the reason(s) for rejection given in the final action, but cancel(s) the rejected claim(s) without prejudice in order to facilitate issuance of a patent for the allowed claim(s). Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to prosecute subject matter of the canceled claim(s) in a divisional or other continuing application.

The final Office action objects to claim 6 as depending from a rejected base claim, but states that it would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. This having been accomplished in this amendment, applicant(s) respectfully request(s) that the Examiner withdraw the objection to the pending claims and find the application in condition for allowance.

If any points remain in issue that may best be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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